DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Note

1. Regarding dependent claim 57, please note that Applicants provided a document which discloses an overview of the current version of the RosettaNet standard. This document which can be found at the RosettaNet web site is titled: RosettaNet, Powered by GS1 US, Overview Clusters, Segments, and PIPS, Version 02.04.00, RosettaNet Program Office, April 23, 2008 (hereinafter RosettaNet Document). Please find a copy of the RosettaNet Document attached with this Office Action.

Section 1.4, page 1, of said document shows the version history of this standard and indicates that the version in effect at the time the Instant application was filed was version 01.01.00, released in 2000. The next version was not release until 2006. Therefore it has been determined that by claiming the specific version of the RosettaNet standard that was in effect at the time the Instant application was filed, the trademark/tradename "RosettaNet" does not render the claim indefinite under 35 U.S.C 112, 2nd paragraph.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given during a telephone interview with Michael W. Farn on 08/12/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

4. Claims 2-29 are cancelled.

5. Claim 32 has been replaced with the following:

- - A system for identifying transactions from WIP status updates, the system comprising:

a processor;

an adapter for receiving WIP status updates for a semiconductor product from at least one supplier in a supply chain for the semiconductor product, wherein the adapter is for converting the WIP status updates to a generalized form; and

a transaction identifier coupled to the adapter for identifying transactions based on a comparison of the WIP status updates with a previous WIP status for the semiconductor product, wherein the transaction identifier is further for identifying transactions based on a comparison of the WIP status updates in the generalized form with

the previous WIP status for the semiconductor product. - -

6. Claim 47 has been replaced with the following:

- - A system for identifying transactions from WIP status updates, the system comprising:

a processor;

an adapter for receiving WIP status updates for a semiconductor product

from at least one supplier in a supply chain for the semiconductor product, wherein the WIP status updates are expressed in lots, each lot containing a quantity of the semiconductor product; and

a transaction identifier coupled to the adapter for identifying transactions

based on a comparison of the WIP status updates with a previous WIP status for the semiconductor product, wherein the transaction identifier identifies transactions on a lot basis, groups lots from the WIP status update with lots from the previous WIP status, and identifies transactions within the groupings, wherein the transaction identifier is further for:

classifying lots according to a change in the quantity of the lot from

the previous WIP status to the WIP status update;

identifying possible valid combinations of lots according to their classifications; and

identifying transactions by evaluating the possible valid combinations of lots. - -

7. Claim 48 has been replaced with the following:

- - A system for identifying transactions from WIP status updates, the system comprising:

a processor;

an adapter for receiving WIP status updates for a semiconductor product from at least one supplier in a supply chain for the semiconductor product, wherein the WIP status updates are expressed in lots, each lot containing a quantity of the semiconductor product; and

a transaction identifier coupled to the adapter for identifying transactions based on a comparison of the WIP status updates with a previous WIP status for the semiconductor product, wherein the transaction identifier identifies transactions on a lot basis, groups lots from the WIP status update with lots from the previous WIP status, and identifies transactions within the groupings, wherein the transaction

identifier is further for:

classifying lots according to a change in the quantity of the lot from the previous WIP status to the WIP status update, including classifying lots as quantity gaining lots, quantity losing lots, potential split-child lots and potential merge-child lots;

identifying possible split events as valid combinations of quantity losing lots with potential split-child lots;

identifying possible merge events as valid combinations of quantity gaining lots with potential merge-child lots;

identifying possible valid combinations of possible merge events and possible split events; and

identifying transactions by evaluating the possible valid combinations of possible merge events and possible split events. - -

8. Claim 56 has been replaced with the following:

- -The system of claim 54 further comprising:

a WIP tracking database, from which the previous WIP status is retrieved; and a synchronizer coupled between the transactional enterprise system and the WIP tracking database for updating the WIP tracking database based on the updated transactional enterprise system. - -

9. Claim 57 has been replaced with the following:

- - The system of claim 32 wherein the transactions are compatible with partner interface processes as defined by the RosettaNet standard, version 01.01.00. - -

Reasons for Allowance

10. Claims 31-57 are allowed.

11. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While Burdick et al. (U.S. Patent 5,889,674) discloses receiving WIP status updates for a semiconductor product from at least one supplier in a supply chain, Jaln et al. (U.S. Pub 2002/0188682) discloses peer-peer collaboration and sharing WIP data, Yang et al. (U.S. Pub 2003/0236718) discloses transactions compatible with RosettaNet, Lu et al. (U.S. Patent 6,684,121) discloses encapsulating the process execution status data with a common standard formatting and "Oracle E-Business Suite High-Tech Semiconductor Industry Solutions, Achieving Excellence in Manufacturing and Customer Response Through Oracle Shop Floor Management", An Oracle White

Paper, February 2003 discloses shop floor move transactions and lot genealogy. None of these references taken either alone or in combination with the prior art of record discloses a system for identifying transactions form WIP status updates including:

(claim 32) "a transaction identifier coupled to the adapter for identifying transactions based on a comparison of the WIP status updates with a previous WIP status for the semiconductor product, wherein the transaction identifier is further for identifying transactions based on a comparison of the WIP status updates in the generalized form with the previous WIP status for the semiconductor product",

(claim 47) "a transaction identifier coupled to the adapter for identifying transactions based on a comparison of the WIP status updates with a previous WIP status for the semiconductor product, wherein the transaction identifier identifies transactions on a lot basis, groups lots from the WIP status update with lots from the previous WIP status, and identifies transactions within the groupings, wherein the transaction identifier is further for: classifying lots according to a change in the quantity of the lot from the previous WIP status to the WIP status update; identifying possible valid combinations of lots according to their classifications; and identifying transactions by evaluating the possible valid combinations of lots",

(claim 48) "a transaction identifier coupled to the adapter for identifying transactions based on a comparison of the WIP status updates with a previous WIP

status for the semiconductor product, wherein the transaction identifier identifies transactions on a lot basis, groups lots from the WIP status update with lots from the previous WIP status, and identifies transactions within the groupings, wherein the transaction identifier is further for: classifying lots according to a change in the quantity of the lot from the previous WIP status to the WIP status update, including classifying lots as quantity gaining lots, quantity losing lots, potential split-child lots and potential merge-child lots; identifying possible split events as valid combinations of quantity losing lots with potential split-child lots; identifying possible merge events as valid combinations of quantity gaining lots with potential merge-child lots; identifying possible valid combinations of possible merge events and possible split events; and identifying transactions by evaluating the possible valid combinations of possible merge events and possible split events",

in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

It is for these reasons that the applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

Conclusion

12. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompanying the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlos Ortiz-Rodriguez whose telephone number is 571-272-3766.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Rodriguez can be reached on 571-272-3753. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Patent Examiner
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September 2, 2008

/Paul L Rodriguez/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2123